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# Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the United Nations to help States and subregional and regional entities in Africa in fighting terrorism

## I. Introduction

1. On 21 May 2013, the Security Council considered the challenges posed by terrorism in Africa in the context of maintaining international peace and security. In a presidential statement issued after the debate, the Council invited me to submit a concise report providing a comprehensive survey and assessment of the relevant work of the United Nations to help States and subregional and regional entities in Africa in fighting terrorism, with a view to continuing consideration of possible steps in this regard (S/PRST/2013/5).

2. In accordance with the presidential statement, the present report provides an overview of United Nations activities throughout Africa in assisting Member States to address terrorism, as guided by the relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions. These primarily include, but are not limited to, Security Council resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1989 (2011), 1373 (2001), 1540 (2004) and 1624 (2005) and General Assembly resolution 60/288 on the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy adopted by the Assembly in 2006 and its subsequent review resolutions. The report also assesses the impact of the assistance and provides recommendations for the future work of the United Nations.

3. Although comprehensive in its scope of activities, the report is not a complete listing of all counter-terrorism-related activities conducted by the United Nations in Africa. Many of our efforts relating to peace and security, development, good governance, rule of law and human rights do not have counter-terrorism as an objective per se although they contribute to the prevention and adequate response to terrorism.

## II. Terrorism in Africa

4. Terrorism remains a serious threat to peace and security across Africa. It is a driving factor in an increasing number of conflict situations.

5. My recent visit to the Sahel region reinforced my belief in the importance of considering peace, security, development and human rights in an interconnected manner. To be effective, counter-terrorism efforts need to address not only the

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symptoms but also the conditions that create the environment that enables terrorist organizations to prosper. The United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel region has the potential to have a decisive impact on the region by providing long-term support for peace and security efforts, sustainable growth, human development and resilience (see S/PRST/2013/5).

6. In Mali, terrorists came close to destroying the basic State structure, thereby affecting the stability of a country and of an entire region. Al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb, the Movement for Unity and Jihad in West Africa and Ansar Eddine continue their activities in northern Mali with spillover effects in neighbouring countries. They put the presence and activities of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) at risk.

7. In North Africa and the Sahel-Sahara region, the impact of armed groups, including the Al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb, with extremist ideologies has increased. Taking advantage of political instability in several North African countries, they have been able to strengthen their existing network and widen the scope of their activities. Their intent and capability to plan attacks was evidenced in Algeria and the Niger in 2013. In Libya, Ansar al-Sharia has strengthened its presence in the east, in particular in Derna and Benghazi, and has carried out numerous assassinations of members of the national security forces and other State institutions.

8. Porous borders and weak State structures in southern Libya have provided an enabling environment for increased presence and activities of terrorist groups in the Sahel. Moreover, they directly transfer instability to neighbouring regions: the flow of arms from Libya to the Central African subregion, particularly the Central African Republic, has contributed to an escalation of violence that poses considerable threats to the security and stability of the entire subregion.

9. Despite robust actions taken by relevant Governments, Boko Haram and its offshoot Ansaru carry on their deadly attacks in Nigeria. The group has exploited the porous border between Nigeria and Cameroon and abducted foreign nationals in Cameroon. Terrorist activities by Boko Haram have driven an estimated 45,000 Nigerian refugees and returning migrants into Cameroon, Chad, and the Niger, among whom are suspected insurgents. Central Africa has also become the main theatre of operation of the Lord's Resistance Army, which is responsible for serious and widespread human rights violations and is considered a terrorist group by the African Union.

10. In Eastern Africa, Al-Shabaab is increasingly engaging in asymmetric warfare as a result of the military campaign conducted by the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and the Somali National Army. Al-Shabaab is demonstrating an improved ability to launch complex terrorist attacks, including in the wider region, as recently illustrated by the Westgate Mall attack of September 2013 in Nairobi. Al-Shabaab has also reportedly been able to secure the support of other international terrorist networks. The group reportedly has strong links with Al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula and has provided training in Somalia to individual terrorists from Nigeria and countries with a closer proximity to its borders. Reports of Al-Shabaab providing training to Boko Haram and Al-Hidjra personnel cannot be substantiated. In addition, attacks by Al-Shabaab and affiliated groups in Uganda and Kenya have demonstrated its reach and recruitment capacity in Somali communities in those

countries. Such alliances enable them to engage in wider efforts aimed at destabilizing the African continent.

11. Even the Southern African region is not immune to acts of terrorism. There have been a series of isolated incidents ranging from bombings to alleged Al-Qaida-linked training in South Africa. Also, there have been warnings of Al-Qaida cells in Zambia, and both South Africa and Zambia have extradited suspected terrorists in the past.

12. The picture is further complicated by the increasing cooperation between criminal networks and terrorist groups, especially in West Africa and the Sahel where organized criminal networks pose a major threat to peace and stability.[1] Kidnappings for ransom have been conducted directly by Al-Qaida affiliates and provide a major source of income for these groups. The increasing evidence of opportunistic linkages between organized criminal groups and terrorists has reinforced the need for comprehensive and multidimensional assistance to address interrelated security challenges.

## III. Activities of the United Nations to help States and subregional and regional entities in Africa in fighting terrorism

13. Addressing the varied challenges posed by terrorist groups requires robust responses across a broad spectrum of activities, from fostering development to good governance and the rule of law and from promoting human rights to addressing the conditions conducive to terrorism.

14. The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy identifies capacity-building as a central element of global counter-terrorism efforts. The Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force and the United Nations entities operating within its framework have responded to the needs of African Member States in line with their mandate and areas of expertise. Increasingly, the United Nations has been working with regional and subregional organizations to amplify the impact of its work.

15. While the United Nations has a critical role to play in capacity-building efforts, it is the Governments of Africa themselves that are at the forefront. Moreover, as terrorism often transcends borders, it is critical that Governments cooperate regionally and even interregionally to counter terrorist actions. In this regard, strengthened cooperation, especially between Sahel and Maghreb States, between Sahel and Central African States, between East African and Maghreb States, and between Middle Eastern and East African States, is essential.

16. The United Nations has provided assistance across all four pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, which calls for action towards addressing conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism; preventing and combating terrorism; building the capacity of countries to prevent and combat terrorism and to strengthen the role of the United Nations system in that regard; and ensuring respect for human rights and the rule of law while countering terrorism. United Nations agencies, funds and programmes have also provided relevant

[1] See the report of the Secretary-General on transnational organized crime and illicit drug trafficking in West Africa and the Sahel region of 17 June 2013 (S/2013/359).

technical and other assistance to States towards implementing various General Assembly and Security Council resolutions related to counter-terrorism.

17. The comprehensive survey of United Nations assistance contained in the present report reviews, in section A, the United Nations work in cooperation with Member States and, in section B, its work in cooperation with subregional, regional and international organizations. In both sections, activities are grouped under the thematic areas identified by the Global Strategy.

## A. United Nations work in cooperation with Member States

### Tackling the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism

*Promoting dialogue, understanding and countering the appeal of terrorism*

18. The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy calls for the promotion of dialogue, tolerance and understanding among civilizations, cultures, peoples and religions and for the establishment of relevant education and public awareness programmes.

19. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is pursuing initiatives in the fields of culture, education and media. To strengthen the protection of culture, UNESCO is working with the international community to prevent the destruction of, or damage to, cultural heritage and the trafficking of cultural property, stressing that cultural heritage and the values that it enshrines are a unifying force for reconciliation and peacebuilding. In Mali, UNESCO helped to safeguard cultural heritage and expressions, which suffered repeated attacks during the recent conflict. Following the adoption of Security Council resolution 2100 (2013) establishing MINUSMA with support for cultural preservation as part of its mandate, UNESCO has continued to work with United Nations partners to integrate the safeguarding of cultural heritage in the peacekeeping operation and recovery efforts.

20. Promoting dialogue and mutual understanding towards peace in the region has been the focus of a cooperation agreement between UNESCO and Saudi Arabia in support of the Abdullah bin Abdulaziz International Programme for a Culture of Peace and Dialogue. Projects aimed at developing a culture of dialogue have been implemented in Egypt, Libya and Tunisia.

21. In West Africa, UNESCO and the African Development Bank provide support to a peace and development project of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) which is developing educational tools for the promotion of human rights education, citizenship, a culture of peace, democracy and regional integration in the formal education system of 15 Member States. In North Africa, UNESCO assists countries in the revision and adaptation of curricula, textbooks and other learning materials to counter cultural, religious and gender-based stereotypes.

22. Given the role of radicalization in the spread of terrorism and the importance of focusing on young people in preventative actions, UNESCO continued to provide, in collaboration with United Nations agencies and country teams, policy advice and technical assistance to support the Governments of Burundi, Ghana, Liberia, Mali and Sierra Leone in reviewing or developing integrated and inclusive public policies on young people. UNESCO also developed a project in Mauritania

that focuses on teaching young people about the skills and values needed to promote tolerance and dialogue. In collaboration with the Ministry of State for Youth and the Ministry of Higher Education in Egypt, UNESCO developed a gender-sensitive manual on democracy.

23. Since community radio plays a key role in many aspects of the daily life of local communities, UNESCO trained young people in South Africa to utilize community radio with a view to promoting social inclusion, creating platforms for dialogue and building societies where peace is a reality for all. UNESCO also strengthened capacities for youth-led social entrepreneurship and promoted a culture of peace by providing "springboard" fellowships through the International Fellowships Programme and through its work with the Guidance, Counselling and Youth Development Centre for Africa in Malawi.

24. UNESCO also works with the media as an important vector for promoting tolerance, implementing programmes in the field of media and information literacy. In June 2013, it held an international conference on the theme "Promoting media and information literacy as a means to promote cultural diversity" in Nigeria.

25. Through its conflict-related development analysis, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is engaged in conducting and applying conflict analysis to support evidence-based conflict prevention efforts. UNDP is supporting security sector reform and local community security through its peace consolidation and governance programme covering Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and the Niger.

*Countering violent extremism and incitement to commit terrorist acts*

26. The United Nations Alliance of Civilizations developed programmes in Africa to prevent radicalization. One of these programmes focuses on Nigerian communities and targets young men, women and community leaders to facilitate dialogue and engagement among members of different groups. The Alliance currently supports two civil society-led projects in the Horn of Africa designed to reduce tensions in the coastal region of Kenya by assessing the trends in radicalization and violent extremism and empowering young people who are targeted by extremist groups. In addition, and in order to counter radical narratives, the Alliance, with support from the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force Office, will undertake another project to develop capacity-building initiatives to counter the use of incendiary narratives among Somali diaspora media professionals to improve relations across clan lines and political divides.

27. The Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate continued to promote the implementation of Security Council resolution 1624 (2005). In this regard, the Directorate organized, in cooperation with the International Centre for Counter-terrorism, and with the support of the Netherlands, its second workshop on the implementation of resolution 1624 (2005) in July 2012 in Rabat. The workshop was held within the framework of a Directorate global initiative that brings together government and civil society representatives to discuss, inter alia, the criminalization of incitement to commit acts of terrorism and measures, including social policy measures, to address violent extremism and radicalization.

28. At the third regional workshop on effective implementation of Security Council resolution 1624 (2005) facilitated by the Directorate and held in Algiers in

June 2013, representatives from Governments, civil society and intergovernmental organizations, including the African Union and the Organization for Islamic Cooperation, discussed effective strategies for prohibiting and countering incitement. In early 2014, the Directorate will facilitate a national workshop for Kenya to discuss issues pertaining to resolution 1624 (2005) as a follow-up to the regional workshop for East African States held in Nairobi in November 2011.

*Rehabilitating and reintegrating violent extremists*

29. The United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute and the African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism of the African Union organized a regional consultation on rehabilitating and reintegrating violent extremists in February 2013. The event served as a basis to develop a regional programme focusing on Algeria, Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, the Niger and Nigeria, aimed at building the capacity of Member States to design, plan, develop and implement rehabilitation and reintegration programmes for violent extremists in prisons. The United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute conducted an initial consultation with the Ministry of the Interior of Nigeria in October 2013 and will collaborate with other West African Member States to build on existing programmes.

**Preventing and combating terrorism**

*Combating money-laundering and countering the financing of terrorism*

30. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) provided capacity development advice on anti-money-laundering and countering the financing of terrorism to several Governments in Africa, including the Comoros, Ghana, Morocco, Nigeria, Sao Tomé and Principe, South Sudan and the Sudan.

31. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), through its Terrorism Prevention Branch, continued to assist countries in implementing the universal legal framework against terrorism, including with respect to countering terrorism financing and freezing of assets. Specialized training for criminal justice officers was also provided to relevant national institutions in the region, including for example, a workshop on the freezing of assets and the implementation of the sanctions regime pursuant to Security Council resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1989 (2011), held in June 2013 in Rabat. The UNODC Global Programme Against Money-Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism also provided continued technical assistance to countries in North Africa to enhance national capacities to tackle money-laundering and terrorism financing. Of particular importance is the continuation of a joint UNODC/World Customs Organization training initiative on cash couriers.

*Building the capacity of States to prevent proliferation and respond weapons of mass destruction attacks*

32. Since 2012, the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), has undertaken country visits to Madagascar, the Republic of Congo and, most recently, to Burkina Faso (in 2013) to raise awareness and help develop national plans for the implementation of the resolution. An invitation has also been received to visit the Niger in January 2014.

33. The United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, within the framework of the European Union Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Mitigation Centres of Excellence Initiative, established regional offices in Algeria, Kenya and Morocco to mitigate chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear risks by promoting a coherent policy, improving coordination and preparedness and offering a comprehensive approach covering legal, scientific, enforcement and technical issues.

**Building the capacity of States to prevent and combat terrorism and to strengthen the role of the United Nations system in that regard**

*Facilitating integrated assistance for countering terrorism*

34. The Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force Office developed the Integrated Assistance for Countering Terrorism (I-ACT) Initiative to assist requesting Member States with the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in an integrated manner, provide assistance across all pillars of the Strategy and coordinate the activities of the United Nations system. The partner country is closely involved in the design of the activities to improve the effectiveness, impact and sustainability of the technical assistance. This platform, which is based on a thorough mapping and gap analysis of capacity-building needs in a country, currently facilitates the delivery of technical assistance to Nigeria and Burkina Faso. Joint projects were developed and implemented with the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, UNODC and UNESCO.

*Enhancing the implementation of legal and international instruments, providing legal assistance and enhancing the capacity of criminal justice officials*

35. In 2012 and 2013, the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate continued to monitor and promote the implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) in Africa. The Directorate conducted assessment visits and fact-finding missions, on behalf of the Counter-Terrorism Committee, to 23 countries, including Angola, Botswana, Djibouti, Gabon, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, the Niger and Zambia.

36. In December 2013, the Directorate organized, in cooperation with the Government of Tunisia, a seminar on bringing terrorists to justice, as part of a series of seminars for senior counter-terrorism prosecutors to enable practitioners to share challenges and lessons learned and discuss good practices and the way forward on specific thematic issues related to the requirement of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001). A previous seminar focusing on the role of the prosecutor in preventing terrorism was held in June 2012 in Algiers.

37. UNODC continued to provide legal technical assistance and specialized capacity-building training to criminal justice officials to prevent and combat terrorism. Addressing gaps in the legal regime against terrorism and strengthening capacity to effectively implement international cooperation mechanisms have also been among UNODC priorities in Africa. In that context, UNODC provided support and technical assistance for the development of a Regional Judicial Platform, established in 2010, with the participation of Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania and the Niger. This network of national focal points cooperates to facilitate extradition and mutual legal assistance in criminal matters. The 4th annual meeting of the Platform was held in Nouakchott from 28 to 30 October 2013, with the participation

of the League of Arab States as an observer. Based on this successful experience, UNODC also developed a regional network of prosecutors and central authorities for the member States of ECOWAS and Mauritania. For the Sahel region, UNODC developed two practical guides to help criminal justice officials address terrorist activities.

38. Building on the previous work of UNODC in Nigeria, UNODC and the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate developed, in partnership with the European Union, a multi-year programme with Nigeria on strengthening criminal justice responses for multidimensional security, which was launched in November 2013. The project is aimed at strengthening the capacity and interoperability of security and national criminal justice institutions involved in counter-terrorism investigations, prosecutions and adjudications. The three entities also launched a four-year programme on effective counter-terrorism investigations and prosecutions while respecting human rights and the rule of law in the Maghreb. The first regional workshop is planned for early 2014 and will target investigators, prosecutors and policymakers. A number of national capacity-building activities are also planned.

39. Medium- to long-term action plans were developed between UNODC and Governments in the Maghreb, forging strategic partnerships for the provision of sustained, specialized and on-the-ground technical and capacity-building assistance to strengthen national counter-terrorism legislation; promote the protection of human rights and the rule of law while countering terrorism; and enhance specialized national capacity to investigate, prosecute and adjudicate terrorism cases.

40. UNODC continued to provide counter-terrorism technical assistance to countries in Eastern Africa. For example, in close consultation with the national authorities of Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia, it elaborated country-specific long-term assistance programmes to strengthen their criminal justice responses to terrorism in accordance with the rule of law and with due respect for human rights. Implementation of assistance activities have started in Djibouti and Ethiopia and are expected for early 2014 in Kenya and Somalia.

41. UNODC also strives to support Member States in their efforts to strengthen regional cooperation, especially on criminal matters. A regional workshop for central authorities in the Middle East and North African States will be held in January 2014 in Morocco within the framework of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate/UNODC global initiative. UNODC will organize a national workshop on international cooperation in criminal matters related to terrorism, transnational organized crime and corruption for Namibia in March 2014.

42. In February 2013, the United Republic of Tanzania hosted the fourth prosecutors' seminar on bringing terrorists to justice within the framework of Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate seminars addressing the policy aspects of the prevention and prosecution of terrorist acts. As a follow-up to the seminar, the Directorate and the Centre on Global Counter-terrorism Cooperation held, with the support of the Governments of Australia and New Zealand, the first workshop in a series of four for law enforcement officers and prosecutors from East Africa (Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania) on bringing terrorists to justice, in May 2013 in Kampala. The aim of the workshops is

to strengthen national criminal justice systems, inter-agency cooperation and coordination and regional cooperation in countering terrorism.

43. The Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force Office jointly organized with the Government of Ethiopia a regional workshop on the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in East Africa, held in Addis Ababa in July 2011. The workshop served as a forum for the exchange of perspectives and priorities and the identification of practical ways to build State capacity. It also served as a starting point for participating States and relevant regional organizations to develop a regional counter-terrorism strategy implementation plan of action, with support from the Task Force and its relevant entities. Participants called for additional efforts to generate and promote effective leadership in the region. In addition, States called for enhancing operational cooperation within the region on key areas relevant to the Global Strategy.

44. On 20 September 2013, the Counter-Terrorism Committee held a special meeting with Member States of the Sahel region as well as international and regional organizations on enhancing cooperation and technical assistance, emphasizing the need to deliver capacity-building in a coordinated, coherent and integrated manner.

45. The International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) undertook capacity-building programmes on counter-terrorism for the Sahel region and the Horn of Africa to enhance the sharing of information among agencies, strengthen its integrated operational response in the region and expand the use of its secure communications network, databases and services. The programmes assisted border control officers, immigration officials, counter-terrorism experts and officials from the INTERPOL National Central Bureaux in Algeria, Burkina Faso, Chad, the Comoros, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, the Niger, Nigeria, Seychelles, Somalia, Tunisia, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania.

46. The World Customs Organization works with several North and West African and Sahel countries at the bilateral level and as part of its regional initiatives to enhance border management. Regional Intelligence Liaison Offices in Cameroon, Morocco and Senegal as well as regional training centres in Egypt and Morocco provide support on intelligence analysis, including with respect to security and counter-terrorism. The World Customs Organization supports Libya on border control questions. In East and Southern Africa, it supports the national Customs Enforcement Network, which allows countries to record and analyse information on suspicious consignments and persons, including on counter-terrorism-related aspects.

47. The United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) assists the Government of Libya in reforming its security institutions to provide basic capabilities to enforce the rule of law throughout the country and thereby indirectly enhances capacities to fight terrorism.

48. Within the framework of the Somali New Deal Compact, the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM) developed, with the support of UNODC and UNDP and in close cooperation with the Federal Government of Somalia, rule of law activities in support of the Somali police and justice sectors. The establishment of a capable corrections structure that provides the necessary security

to those held on remand or for sentencing is also receiving urgent attention from UNSOM and UNDP. In October 2012, UNODC conducted in Kampala a national workshop for Somalia entitled "Universal legal framework against terrorism: international cooperation in the investigation and prosecution of crimes at sea". It was co-sponsored by the Governments of Uganda and Italy.

*Enhancing transport security*

49. The International Maritime Organization (IMO) continued to assist the Federal Government of Somalia and the regional authorities of Somaliland, Puntland and Galmudug, in partnership with other United Nations agencies, to advance the development of the Somali Maritime Resource and Security Strategy through the Kampala process and to help review and improve national legislation to implement the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

**Ensuring respect for human rights for all and the rule of law while countering terrorism**

*Promoting human rights while countering terrorism*

50. The Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism conducted an official visit to Burkina Faso from 8 to 12 April 2013, at the invitation of the Government, to gather information on the current situation in Burkina Faso and thereby assist the Government in its efforts to counter terrorism while respecting human rights and promote the implementation of international instruments. This invitation as well as the cooperation the Special Rapporteur received during his visit reflects the commitment of the Government of Burkina Faso to ensuring that its efforts to counter terrorism are in line with international human rights laws and standards.[2]

51. On 29 October 2013, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) participated in a conference on the new Tunisian counter-terrorism draft law organized by the Ministry of Human Rights and Transitional Justice of the Government of Tunisia. OHCHR had provided written comments on the draft law aimed at improving the human rights guarantees of both victims and suspects of terrorism. This initiative supports national efforts to ensure that Tunisia's counter-terrorism legislation is aligned with international human rights laws and standards, taking into account the recommendations issued by the former Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism (see A/HRC/16/51/Add.2 and A/HRC/20/14/Add.1).

[2] The report of the country visit to Burkina Faso will be presented at the twenty-fifth session of the Human Rights Council in March 2014 (A/HRC/25/59/Add.1). The end of visit statement of the Special Rapporteur is available from http://www.ohchr.org.

## B. United Nations work in cooperation with subregional, regional and international organizations

### Tackling the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism

*Resolving conflicts and mitigating regional repercussions*

52. Peacekeeping operations and special political missions are increasingly mandated with disarmament, demobilization and reintegration tasks. For example, the Rule of Law and Security Institutions Group, along with AMISOM, engaged closely with the Federal Government of Somalia to assist in managing the disengagement of fighters from Al-Shabaab in line with international best practice and human rights standards. This engagement culminated in the assessment of the legal framework that informed UNSOM support to the Federal Government of Somalia; the engagement of a team of trained Human Rights Officers to monitor the functioning of the Serendi Youth Rehabilitation Centre for disengaged fighters in Mogadishu; and an assessment of the application of best practices to design a de-radicalization programme for disengaging Al-Shabaab fighters. The United Nations is seeking to build upon initial experiences in Somalia to counter the terrorist threat posed by Al-Qaida's infiltration of Touareg non-State armed groups in the north of Mali.

53. In addition to the unintended regional humanitarian consequences of conflicts, the proliferation of small arms and light weapons as well as movements of illegal armed and terrorist groups exacerbate security challenges, especially where there are shared porous borders with fragile or unstable neighbouring States. Within the framework of its engagement with the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) on terrorism issues, the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate will partner in the implementation of a project related to coordinated border management for East African States that will be launched in 2014 as a follow-up to the regional workshop on border control held in July 2010.

*Promoting dialogue, understanding and countering the appeal of terrorism*

54. UNESCO organized the Pan-African Forum entitled "Sources and resources for a culture of peace" together with the African Union and the Government of Angola in Luanda, from 26 to 28 March 2013. It resulted in the development of an action plan for the culture of peace in Africa; the launch of a multi-stakeholder partnership for the implementation of the action plan through coordinated action at the national, subregional and regional levels; and the launch of a Pan-African movement in support of the "Make peace happen" campaign initiated by the African Union in 2010. In 45 countries in sub-Saharan Africa, UNESCO developed a comprehensive mapping of current policies and resources to provide a depiction of how a culture of peace is fostered.

55. In the 10 countries of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), UNESCO implemented a project entitled "Education for citizenship and a culture of peace" to support the integration of education for peace and sustainable development modules in school curricula.

*Countering violent extremism and incitement to commit terrorist acts*

56. My Special Representative for West Africa organized a brainstorming session with the Resident Coordinators of the region on the symptoms of religious and ethno-political extremism and their impact on stability in West Africa, held on 17 September 2013 in Dakar. Experts from think tanks and academia, as well as the African Union, ECOWAS, the European Union and the United Nations, including representatives from the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force Office and the Department of Safety and Security, participated in this meeting. They considered holistic approaches to addressing the factors conducive to the spread of extremism and terrorism in the region and how best United Nations entities can assist in dealing with the phenomenon and its impact on peace, security and stability. They underscored the nexus between security and development and stressed the need for inclusive governance that is responsive to basic socioeconomic needs and pays due regard to international human rights considerations.

57. Within the framework of its efforts to thwart incitement to commit terrorist acts, the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate co-organized with the League of Arab States a regional workshop entitled "Ways to develop national and regional strategies to confront acts of incitement, extremism and violence leading to terrorism, and enhancing cultural dialogue", held in Cairo, Egypt, in November 2013. The workshop provided a forum for the League of Arab States to consider the findings of previous workshops on the implementation of resolution 1624 (2005) and the relevant provisions of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, discuss good national practices and challenges, and identify potential solutions that respect human rights and the rule of law.

**Preventing and combating terrorism**

*Developing regional counter-terrorism strategies*

58. The Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force Office and the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate work jointly with the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa to contribute to the development of a regional strategy against terrorism and the proliferation of small arms for Central Africa. Within the framework of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, Member States adopted a Declaration on a Road Map for Counter-Terrorism and Non-proliferation of Arms in Central Africa at the 33rd ministerial meeting of the Advisory Committee in December 2011.

59. The main objective of the Declaration is to strengthen customs, military, police, economic and social cooperation established in bilateral, multilateral and institutional mechanisms for the subregion. In line with the road map, a workshop on a counter-terrorism strategy for Central Africa, supported by the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre, was held in Brazzaville in the margins of the 35th ministerial meeting of the Advisory Committee.

60. The implementation of the road map will involve the international community as a whole and especially the United Nations, through the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, as well as the African Centre for Studies and Research on Terrorism. Future workshops will determine regional priorities. A first workshop on police and intelligence, jointly organized by the United Nations Regional Office for

Central Africa, the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre-Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force Office and the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, will be held in January 2014 in Libreville, with the financial support of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre.

61. The United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre-Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force Office and the African Centre for Studies and Research on Terrorism will also support the Southern African Development Community (SADC) to develop a regional counter-terrorism strategy to increase regional coordination and collaboration in preventing and combating terrorist activities in Southern Africa.

62. The Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force Office and the IGAD Security Sector Programme signed a memorandum of understanding in July 2012 that allows the two offices to jointly launch counter-terrorism projects in Eastern Africa; develop national and regional counter-terrorism strategies in partnership with States; and establish dedicated liaison and focal points for closer collaboration and engagement.

*Combating money-laundering and countering the financing of terrorism*

63. The Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate worked closely with the Intergovernmental Action Group against Money-Laundering in West Africa to organize the first joint regional workshop on freezing terrorist property for the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) member States and Guinea, held in Dakar from 11 to 13 December 2012. A similar event will be held in early 2014 for the anglophone countries of ECOWAS.

64. The Directorate and the Monitoring Team of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1989 (2011) concerning Al-Qaida and associated individuals and entities were granted observer status in the Middle East and North Africa Financial Action Task Force in April 2012. The Directorate subsequently participated in the Task Force plenary and co-organized a regional workshop on the effective implementation of the Security Council resolutions, conventions and international standards on combating money-laundering and the financing of terrorism, held in Jordan in October 2013.

65. The Directorate, together with the Centre on Global Counter-terrorism Cooperation and with the support of the Governments of the Netherlands and Germany, held a subregional workshop for East African Member States on effective monitoring of alternative remittances to prevent terrorist financing abuse, in Addis Ababa, in December 2013. The aim of the workshop was to raise awareness of the risk for informal money remitters who could be used to fund terrorist activities; promote a dialogue among regulatory agencies, law enforcement officials and the money remitters; promote financial inclusion and identify best practices. A similar workshop for the Sahel region will be held in early 2014.

66. The Directorate worked closely with the Eastern and Southern African Anti-money-laundering Group on issues relating to money-laundering and countering terrorist financing. In addition to participating actively in the Group's plenary meetings and assisting in the delivery of training, the Directorate organized joint events such as the regional workshop for East and Southern African States on effective freezing of terrorist assets, held in the United Republic of Tanzania in June

2013, in cooperation with the Global Counterterrorism Forum and with the support of the United States of America.

67. The Directorate and the Australian Reporting and Analysis Centre jointly organized a subregional workshop for the member States of the Eastern and Southern African Anti-money-laundering Group on controlling the cross-border movement of cash and bearer-negotiable instruments, held in Pretoria in May 2013. Subsequently, Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia and Zambia requested additional bilateral training sessions. The Directorate will facilitate the delivery of the requested training to customs officials, border police and financial intelligence units in the first quarter of 2014.

68. IMF provided assistance to the Government of Mozambique to assess its legal and institutional regime on anti-money-laundering/counter-financing of terrorism as well as legal drafting advice. It also trained the staff of the Central Bank on risk-based anti-money-laundering/counter-financing of terrorism oversight.

69. The World Bank continued to provide assistance to Member States in North and sub-Saharan Africa along three main pillars, namely diagnostics, support to the enactment of laws and regulations in line with the relevant international standards, and capacity-building for policymakers and practitioners in the anti-money-laundering/counter-financing of terrorism regime. The World Bank continued to develop strong partnerships with United Nations agencies in implementing assistance, such as the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, UNODC and the 1267 Monitoring Team, especially on asset freezing.

70. Under the framework of the Working Group on Tackling the Financing of Terrorism of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force and its global initiative on protecting non-profit organizations from terrorist abuse, the Directorate organized a regional workshop for East African Member States, held in March 2012 in Nairobi. The workshop discussed national practices and identified shortcomings in the oversight of the non-profit organization sector with regard to specific terrorist financing risks. The event was supported by the Governments of Canada and Switzerland and the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

*Building capacity to prevent proliferation and respond to weapons of mass destruction attacks*

71. To promote the ratification and implementation of the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and the 2005 Amendment thereto as well as the 2005 International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, UNODC organized workshops in Senegal and Kenya in 2013, in close cooperation with the African Union, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004).

72. The United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs supports the Committee in its activities and has organized, co-organized or supported regional workshops in Africa to facilitate the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), hosted by Botswana, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya and South Africa, with the participation of 50 African States as well as the African Union and several subregional organizations, including ECCAS, ECOWAS, IGAD and SADC.

73. The twentieth Ordinary Session of the African Union Assembly, held in January 2013, requested the African Union Commission to take the necessary steps,

in collaboration with the Committee and other stakeholders, to further promote and enhance the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) in Africa. The African Union organized, with the support of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, the workshop on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) held on 10 and 11 December 2013 in Addis Ababa. The Committee and its experts, the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, international organizations as well as regional and subregional organizations contributed their expertise.

74. In 2007, the Director-General of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons launched a programme to strengthen cooperation with Africa on the Chemical Weapons Convention, which was later extended to December 2013. The programme is aimed at promoting the full and effective implementation of the Convention in Africa and increasing participation in programmes and activities designed to promote the peaceful uses of chemistry for economic and technological development and enhance national protective capacities by African State parties.

**Building the capacity of States to prevent and combat terrorism and to strengthen the role of the United Nations system in that regard**

*Enhancing the implementation of legal and international instruments, providing legal assistance and enhancing the capacity of law enforcement officials*

75. The Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate continued its active engagement with the European Union, including the European Union Counter-Terrorism Coordinator on the Maghreb who participated in its follow-up visit to Morocco in March 2013. The European Union is also working in partnership with the Directorate and UNODC on strengthening the capacity of the Maghreb States to investigate and prosecute counter-terrorism cases while respecting the rule of law and human rights. In addition, the Directorate developed a partnership with the Arab Maghreb Union. In November 2013, the Union participated for the first time in a Directorate country visit to the region.

76. The Directorate collaborated closely with the African Centre for Studies and Research on Terrorism, which participates in its assessment visits and often contributes a regional perspective in events facilitated by the Directorate. It facilitated an initiative with the African Centre on enhancing the use of international databases by the Sahel countries in order to strengthen coordination, information-sharing and cooperation among police and border authorities. This initiative will culminate in a series of four workshops that will be rolled out in 2014 in North and West Africa.

77. In its efforts to promote regional cooperation, UNODC organized, jointly with the Global Counterterrorism Forum, a conference on regional cooperation in criminal matters in the Maghreb and the Sahel, held in Casablanca, Morocco, from 16 to 18 April 2013. The conference focused on challenges in the region and ways to strengthen such cooperation. A number of practical recommendations will guide follow-up initiatives to be jointly conducted by UNODC and the Forum in 2014.

78. UNODC and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) co-organized a regional expert workshop on implementation of the universal legal instruments against terrorism as a way to enhance counter-terrorism cooperation in the Mediterranean basin, held in Malaga, Spain in September 2013.

79. In order to support the implementation of the ECOWAS Regional Action Plan against drug trafficking and transnational organized crime, the West Africa Coast

Initiative was developed by the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, UNODC and INTERPOL and launched in July 2009. The first programmatic component is the establishment of transnational crime units in Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia and Sierra Leone. While the Initiative was envisaged in response to the growth of drug trafficking and transnational organized crime in West Africa, the transnational crime units will function as law enforcement fusion centres to support national and regional analytical and technical capacity to respond to transnational threats. The Initiative's extension beyond the initial pilot States will benefit from the recent Security Council authorization to develop national police and law enforcement information analysis capacities on illicit arms.

80. In 2012, INTERPOL launched the West African Police Information System, supported by the European Union. The information system allows law enforcement agencies in 16 West African countries to collect, analyse and share police information at the national, regional and global levels.

81. The United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel region, which is implemented by the United Nations Office for West Africa in collaboration with the entire United Nations system, includes security as one of its three pillars, and counter-terrorism issues figure prominently among the key regional priorities.[3] I am pleased to note that regional Member States are starting to take ownership of the strategy as evidenced by the organization of the ministerial meeting on the Sahel by the Government of Mali, held on 5 November 2013 in Bamako. Participants agreed on the establishment of a regional coordination platform which would be led by Mali for the first two years and supported by a technical secretariat, co-chaired by the United Nations and the African Union, with the participation of all relevant multilateral institutions. The meeting was organized on the margins of my visit to the Sahel region from 4 to 7 November 2013 with the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, the Presidents of the World Bank and the African Development Bank and the Commissioner for Development of the European Union.

82. The Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force Office, the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate and UNODC worked closely with the United Nations Office for West Africa to develop the security pillar of the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel region to define key principles and priority actions. UNODC has elaborated and commenced implementing an integrated programme in response to the challenges faced by the Sahel countries entitled "UNODC contribution to the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel region". UNDP is leading the Regional Inter-Agency Task Force on Governance and contributes to advance the security pillar of the strategy on the democratic governance and security aspects.

83. The Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate and the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre co-organized with the Government of Morocco an international conference focusing on border control cooperation in the Sahel and the Maghreb, held in Rabat in March 2013. The conference gathered police, customs and intelligence officials from 11 countries to discuss common challenges and ways to address them to strengthen border cooperation. The Directorate, with the

[3] See the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Sahel region of 14 June 2013 (S/2013/354).

assistance of relevant international organizations, including IMO, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the World Customs Organization, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and INTERPOL, developed a number of capacity-building projects on border control. In particular, the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre will support two border control and regional cooperation projects. The first project is aimed at enhancing the counter-terrorism and transnational organized crime coordination and information-sharing capacities of States by establishing and linking six national counter-terrorism and transnational crime units; the second project will seek to strengthen interregional cooperation on border control by creating informal networks of intelligence, police and customs officials in neighbouring countries that are part of different regional arrangements.

84. The World Customs Organization continued to strengthen capacity with regard to border control as well as the prevention and detection of the trafficking of all types of illicit goods that can be directly or indirectly used by terrorists to fund their activities. It developed projects with the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force Office, the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, UNODC and INTERPOL.

85. The Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force Office organized jointly with the Government of Nigeria a regional workshop on the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in West Africa and the Sahel, held in Abuja in October 2013. The workshop identified key capacity-building priorities for the region, especially in the field of border control. In addition, participants called on the United Nations, the Task Force and other relevant counter-terrorism bodies to continue working with national and regional actors to promote the effective implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel region and the ECOWAS Counter-Terrorism Strategy in an integrated and mutually reinforcing manner. The Task Force's I-ACT Initiative was cited by participants as a valuable tool to map ongoing activities, identify gaps and develop programmes that address niche areas where additional technical assistance is required.

86. The Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate developed, in view of the situation in Mali, a project aimed at addressing the issue of terrorist suspects detained by the Malian army in order to bring them to justice. The project is being discussed with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and MINUSMA as well as other relevant partners, and a joint Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate/Department of Peacekeeping Operations mission to Mali is expected to take place in early 2014.

87. To support the efforts of Governments across the globe to implement the international counter-terrorism instruments, UNODC has elaborated several specialized technical assistance publications and tools. These include the counter-terrorism legal training curriculum, which is aimed at maximizing the impact of capacity-building assistance. The Office continued to provide assistance to criminal justice officials through capacity-building workshops and national legislative assistance seminars.

88. The United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre-Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force Office contributed to enhancing cooperation between African experts and other international stakeholders through, especially, the International Conference on National and Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategies held in Bogota

in January 2013 and the International Conference on Engaging Partners for Capacity-Building: United Nations Collaboration with Counter-Terrorism Centres held in Riyadh in February 2013.

89. The 1267 Monitoring Team continued its engagement in African countries to assist in the implementation of the 1267 regime by participating in thematic workshops and conducting country visits. In 2013, it visited Ethiopia, Kenya and the Sudan and held talks with officials from the Federal Government of Somalia.

90. Although the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) does not have a counter-terrorism mandate, in the exercise of its function, UNHCR works very closely with Governments to promote protection-sensitive entry systems as part of broader migration management policies and practices. A range of activities in the field, including the provision of training, technical assistance and capacity-building to border guards, immigration and related officials have been undertaken to help maintain the integrity of national asylum systems, including through preserving the civilian character of asylum, thus contributing positively to the overall security environment.

*Enhancing transport and maritime security*

91. IMO continued to collaborate with UNSOM, UNODC and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to support the sustainable development of the Somali maritime sector, the creation of alternative livelihoods to piracy, and the protection and management of Somalia's maritime resources.

92. The Trust Fund to Support Initiatives of States Countering Piracy off the Coast of Somalia, whose Board is chaired by the Department of Political Affairs, continues to be an efficient mechanism for supporting the international community's efforts to counter piracy off the coast of Somalia. The Trust Fund has supported the initiatives of FAO, IMO, UNDP, UNODC, UNSOM and INTERPOL. Collectively, the Trust Fund has supported a range of activities, including strengthening the regional capacity to prosecute persons suspected of acts of piracy and sanction those convicted; providing basic comfort and minimum treatment standards for prisoners; enhancing the capacity of judiciaries and prosecutorial services; building up police departments; targeting illicit financial flows derived from pirate activities; and creating greater public awareness.

93. ICAO has substantial engagement with African States and regional and subregional organizations, particularly with respect to global aviation security and border integrity policy development as well as capacity-building assistance. ICAO activities include assessment missions, technical assistance, training, workshops and conferences to enhance the capacity and awareness of regional and subregional organizations.

94. IMO assisted in the development and subsequent adoption of the new Code of Conduct concerning the Prevention and Repression of Piracy, Armed Robbery Against Ships and Illicit Maritime Activity in West and Central Africa, signed in June 2013 in Cameroon. It also supported the development of maritime law enforcement capacity and launched a new West and Central Africa Maritime Security Trust Fund for that purpose. IMO delivered national table top exercises on maritime contingency planning in 2012 and 2013.

95. In cooperation with ICAO and IMO, UNODC is finalizing a module on transport-related terrorism offences as part of its counter-terrorism legal training curriculum.

96. The Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat continued to provide advice and assistance to Member States and international organizations on the legal framework against terrorism, including maritime security issues. It also reports on developments regarding maritime security to the General Assembly in the reports of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea. In that regard, it provided input to the African Union 2050 Africa's Integrated Maritime Strategy adopted by the African Ministers of Transport in 2012.

**Ensuring respect for human rights for all and the rule of law while countering terrorism**

*Protecting human rights and the rule of law while countering terrorism*

97. It has been noted that in some instances, owing to the perceived urgency and particularity of terrorist threats, counter-terrorism investigations and responses carried out by national law enforcement and security forces may have been delinked from human rights considerations in comparison to regular criminal policing situations, leading to important gaps. In order to assist in filling these gaps and to improve the capacity of Member States to prevent and respond to terrorist threats and conduct investigations in the event of a terrorist attack that are compliant with human rights and the rule of law, the Working Group on Protecting Human Rights While Countering Terrorism of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force launched, under the leadership of OHCHR, a two-year global project in April 2013 on training and capacity-building for law enforcement officials on human rights, the rule of law and the prevention of terrorism.

98. The Working Group conducted two workshops, in Amman in April 2013 and Ouagadougou in October 2013 respectively, entitled "Identifying key needs and developing training best practices" to map the training needs of States; raise awareness of the project among experts and State representatives; and establish a roster of experts who could assist in developing the training curricula for the project. High-level law enforcement and security officials as well as expert facilitators from Algeria, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Libya, Mali, Morocco, Nigeria, Senegal and Tunisia attended.

99. The Working Group will implement the training that forms part of this project in 2014, with a priority on Member States in the Sahel region and North Africa.

100. As part of its counter-terrorism legal training curriculum, UNODC is elaborating a module on human rights and criminal justice responses to terrorism. The curriculum examines human rights questions typically arising in the various stages of the criminal justice process in terrorism cases.

## IV. Observations

101. The primary responsibility of preventing and combating terrorism remains with African Member States and with its subregional and regional entities. The United Nations, together with its partners, is committed to providing the necessary assistance.

102. As the present report highlights, the range and breadth of United Nations activities in support of African Member States is growing. It is also encouraging that many States have shown willingness to seek United Nations assistance to fill key gaps in their counter-terrorism activities. While these are indicators of significant progress, much still needs to be accomplished.

103. We must expand our efforts to ensure a balanced and comprehensive approach to counter-terrorism assistance in Africa. This means an emphasis on implementing all four pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy as well as a concerted effort to implement and abide by all relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions.

104. The most efficient utilization of our resources will remain a high priority. I also encourage the donor community to generously respond to appeals in respect of counter-terrorism efforts in Africa.

105. Developing systematic and consistent monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to identify those United Nations counter-terrorism activities that are effective and ready to be scaled up and those that should be phased out has become critical. It is vital for our collective credibility and effectiveness that the United Nations deliver concrete and measurable results.

**Improving and streamlining capacity-building efforts**

106. The assessment work carried out by the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate has resulted in a comprehensive survey of the legal, institutional and operational measures in place in 23 African States to combat terrorism, as well as recommendations to address identified shortfalls and the need for technical assistance. The Directorate will continue its assessment work of other African countries as well as monitor progress in States already assessed.

107. The I-ACT Initiative of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force has proved valuable in providing assistance in Burkina Faso and Nigeria. I am pleased that preparation is under way to extend it to additional countries in West Africa and encourage further expansion to other countries. Moreover, the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre will expand its assistance to developing and implementing regional strategies.

108. The specialized legal assistance provided by UNODC since 2003 to African Member States to support their efforts to establish and strengthen the legal regime against terrorism has resulted in important progress. Whereas in early 2003 very few countries in Africa had ratified at least 4 of the then existing 12 international legal instruments against terrorism, most of the countries have now ratified the majority. African States have also undertaken review and revisions of their national counter-terrorism legislative provisions to incorporate the instruments and to comply with Security Council resolutions and international standards related to the rule of law and human rights.

109. The need for in-depth and tailored assistance in the area of criminal justice, especially in investigations, prosecutions and adjudication of terrorist cases, from the perspective of both bringing terrorists to justice and preventing terrorist acts, is another important area to address. In that regard, UNODC, in collaboration with other United Nations entities, should continue to develop and implement country-specific

long-term assistance programmes to respond to the need to strengthen national criminal justice systems.

110. It is important that special attention also be given to the development of specialized training for investigators, prosecutors and judges in such areas as countering the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes; supporting and assisting victims of acts of terrorism; tackling chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear terrorism; countering transport-related terrorist offences; and countering the financing of terrorism. Border control and border management also need additional efforts.

111. The United Nations and international partners must make it a key priority to work closely with recipient countries to integrate human rights and a rule-of-law-based approach in their national counter-terrorism policies.

**Enhancing coordination and cooperation within the United Nations system, with recipient countries and regional organizations**

112. Coordination among United Nations entities in the delivery of counter-terrorism assistance is critical to avoid duplication, enhance effectiveness in the delivery of assistance and ensure more rational allocation of resources. I welcome the efforts of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force Office to improve coordination and coherence among Task Force entities in this regard.

113. I encourage United Nations agencies to work more closely with recipient countries and to promote coordination among them through the assistance provided. I have adopted measures to improve coordination in all rule of law-related activities, which should also be reflected in the area of counter-terrorism. The work of the United Nations on developing regional and national counter-terrorism strategies provides a good political framework for countries to collaborate. However, Member States would also benefit from regular interaction with each other and with regional, subregional and international organizations. I urge United Nations entities to do more to facilitate such interaction.

114. The enhanced cooperation with regional and subregional organizations contributes to giving local ownership to United Nations activities in Africa: the increasing collaboration with the African Union and its regional economic commissions as well as with IGAD and SADC is to be highlighted. I welcome this trend which ensures that local and regional realities are taken into account. However, I ask that United Nations entities further increase collaboration by sharing information, exchanging best practices and helping organizations to develop technical expertise in key areas. A more widespread use of the relevant instruments developed by the African Union to prevent and combat terrorism would greatly contribute to that effort.

115. Another positive development is the new partnerships forged by the United Nations with other international partners present in Africa, such as the European Union, to develop joint programmes, and the Global Counterterrorism Forum, whose working groups tackle counter-terrorism capacity gaps throughout Africa to provide tailored assistance.

**Enhancing preventative activities to help States to address conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism**

116. This survey reveals that most of the counter-terrorism assistance provided by the United Nations in Africa is geared towards strengthening State capacities to combat terrorism. However, for a comprehensive counter-terrorism approach, it is necessary that States also develop and implement measures that address conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism.

117. The values of good governance, respect for human rights and the rule of law, inclusive economic growth and social progress are not merely positive goals in themselves, but are basic and essential ingredients to address the underlying conditions. Thus, combating terrorism requires full and scrupulous adherence to international human rights and rule of law standards as prescribed in pillar IV of the Global Strategy. We must ensure that States are able to handle terrorism, terrorist attacks and support to victims of these attacks within the legal framework of human rights law, refugee law and international humanitarian law.

118. Terrorism is a driving factor in an increasing number of conflict situations, especially in the Sahel region and the Maghreb. While I note the Organization's long and positive contributions to conflict resolution and prevention in Africa, which have helped to address, to a certain extent, some of the conditions conducive to terrorism, we need to consider additional ways to integrate the prevention of terrorism in the Organization's broader conflict prevention and conflict management efforts, especially through collaboration with our special political missions. Relevant United Nations entities should also consider expanding their field presence in such areas. In this regard, I welcome the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel region, which includes security as one of its three pillars and where counter-terrorism issues figure prominently among the key regional priorities.

119. I also note the long-term support of the United Nations to Africa in the areas of economic and social development, which has contributed to alleviating poverty and exclusion. However, these measures need to be significantly enhanced. The prevention of radicalization and extremism among young people, in particular, should be a priority area for intervention. A mapping exercise of youth involvement in addressing conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism would be a good starting point to develop positive interventions addressing those conditions, which could also include solutions to lack of education and of employment. I encourage United Nations agencies to develop and improve mechanisms that involve the youth of Africa in the design and implementation of their own activities.

120. In view of the important contribution of women in countering radicalization and extremism, there is a need to further integrate women's perspectives into national and regional counter-terrorism programming. I urge United Nations entities to incorporate a gender component into their counter-terrorism work and to ensure that gender considerations are addressed as part of efforts on counter-terrorism and countering violent extremism, including through enhanced cooperation with civil society and women's groups.

121. Counter-terrorism activities must be supported by efforts to prevent vulnerable individuals from being drawn into terrorism and conflict. Preventative actions targeting the rhetoric used by terrorists and the fertile ground on which they operate in order to radicalize a fringe of the population are crucial. The work of

organizations such as UNESCO, UNDP and the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations that focus on conflict prevention, building a culture of peace, eradicating poverty and promoting sustainable development and social inclusion through education, culture and communication in Africa has become critical. It will also be vital to maintain and build upon the important synergies that have been developed with non-governmental actors, including local communities, civil society organizations, the private sector and the media.

122. In 2014, I will be submitting a report to the General Assembly on the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, reviewing our efforts in countering terrorism across the world in the context of the implementation of the Strategy. Taking into account the present report, I will be putting forth recommendations on how the United Nations could step up its efforts, through the framework of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, to assist Member States and subregional and regional entities to address terrorism in a more dynamic, creative and systematic manner.